

June 1, 2022

Pensioner Name Address Line 1 Address Line 2 Address Line 3

Pensioner ID:

## Dear Pensioner Name:

On behalf of the Statewide Benefits Office and the Office of Pensions, we are EXCITED to share positive changes for Medicare-eligible retirees! The State of Delaware will transition medical plan coverage from the current Special Medicfill Medicare Supplement Plan to Freedom Blue PPO, a Medicare Advantage Plan (also known as a Medicare Part C plan) administered by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware, for coverage to begin January 1, 2023.

Why is this a positive change? There are several reasons.

- 1. The monthly cost of the Medicare Advantage Plan is less than half of the current cost while providing the same level of medical plan benefits as the Special Medicfill plan it replaces.
- 2. The Medicare Advantage Plan offers exceptional service through an expanded concierge service team and additional benefits, such as Silver Sneakers and at home meals following discharge from a hospitalization.
- The Medicare Advantage Plan offers a simplified process because you no longer need to carry your Medicare card in addition to your Highmark medical plan ID card.
- 4. There will be no change to your prescription coverage as SilverScript, the State of Delaware Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage administered by CVS Caremark, will continue as our pharmacy plan for all Medicare retirees.

The primary purpose of this letter is to inform you of the upcoming change and reassure you that we have your best interest in mind. Below are several things to remember:

• There will be no action required by you. Our staff will manage the transition, so no action is necessary if you are currently enrolled in Special Medicfill with Prescription.

- You will receive multiple mailings from now until the end of the year regarding this transition. Many more details will be available in the future mailings coming from us and Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware.
- Please look for the State of Delaware Medicare Advantage branding on all mailings. You
  will likely be inundated with marketing materials in the upcoming months trying to sell
  additional coverage. For your convenience, all mailings from the State of Delaware
  and/or Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware regarding the change to Medicare
  Advantage will have the State seal and this easily identifiable branding on the envelope.



 Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware has created a dedicated Medicare Advantage concierge call center to answer your questions regarding the Freedom Blue PPO Medicare Advantage Plan. Please feel free to call Highmark at 1-888-328-2960 for assistance with any questions you may have.

We want to reassure you that we are working hard to ensure the transition is smooth and worry-free. Remember, there will be additional information mailed to you over the next several months. In the meantime, enclosed in this mailing is a Frequently Asked Questions document and a chart from Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware, comparing the Freedom Blue PPO benefits to the current Special Medicfill Plan. As a reminder, Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield Delaware has a dedicated Medicare Advantage concierge call center ready to answer your questions at **1-888-328-2960**. The Office of Pensions can also be reached at 1-302-739-4208 or 1-800-722-7300 to answer any questions regarding your benefits. Information and updates can also be viewed at <u>DelawarePensions.com</u>.

Sincerely,

Faith L. Rentz

Statewide Benefits Office Director

Sincerely,

Joanna M. Adams Pension Administrator

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